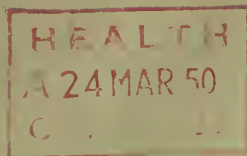


23 MAR 1950



ANNUAL REPORT

on the

PUBLIC HEALTH and SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

of the

DORCHESTER RURAL DISTRICT

for the Year 1949

To the Chairman and Members of the Dorchester Rural District Council.

This is a compact area situated in Mid-South Dorset, forming the land boundary of the Borough of Weymouth, and comprises 128,606 acres.

The occupations are almost entirely agricultural.

The estimated number of inhabited houses is 4,600

The number of Council-owned houses is 294

In the hutted Camps the number of occupied huts is. . . 95

The Rateable Value of the Area is £80,196

One penny Rate produces approximately £320

VITAL STATISTICS. The latest available figures are those for the year 1948, so the figures under this heading (only) refer to that period:-

Resident Population, middle of the year (estimated by the Registrar General 16,320

<u>Live Births</u>	Males	Females
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Legitimate	137	111
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Illegitimate	8	6
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Total	145	117
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<u>Still Births</u>	Males	Females
Legitimate	6	4
Total Births	272	
Total Deaths	171	
Total Deaths under One year of Age		7
Live Births Rate per 1000 population		16.0
Total Birth Rate per 1,000 population		16.6
Death Rate per 1,000 population		10.4
Ditto for England and Wales		10.8
Infantile Mortality Rate, per 1,000 live births		26.7
Ditto for England Wales		34.0

Causes of Death

	M.	F.
2. Cerebrospinal Fever	-	1
6. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	2	3
7. Other tuberculosis	1	-
8. Syphilitic disease	-	1
9. Influenza	1	-
13. Cancer of Buccal cavity and oesophagus (M), uterus (F)	1	3
14. Cancer of Stomach and Duodenum.	9	1
15. Cancer of Breast	-	5
16. Cancer of Other sites.	9	5
17. Diabetes	1	-
18. Cerebral vascular lesions.	12	11
19. Diseases of Heart.	21	28
20. Other diseases of circulatory system	4	1
21. Bronchitis	3	3
22. Pneumonia (all forms)	3	1
23. Other diseases of respiratory system.	1	-
24. Ulcer of Stomach or Duodenum	3	-
26. Appendicitis.	-	2
27. Other diseases of the digestive system.	-	1
28. Nephritis	1	2
32. Congenital malformations etc.	6	1
33. Suicide	1	-
34. Road Traffic Accidents.	2	1
35. Other violent causes.	4	1
36. All other causes	7	8
	<u>92</u>	<u>79</u>

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES. The following cases were notified during 1949.

Civilian Cases:-

Acute Polioencephalitis	...	...	...	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	2
Dysentery (sonne)	...	...	...	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	4
Measles	...	...	...	173
Acute Primary Pneumonia	...	...	...	10
Influenzal Pneumonia	...	...	...	1
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	1
Tuberculosis, Pulmonary	...	...	...	8
Tuberculosis, Non-pulmonary	...	...	...	4
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	76
Total				281

Non-civilian Cases:-

Measles	...	...	...	...	2
Total					2

Acute Polioencephalitis. One case was notified and admitted to Weymouth Isolation Hospital but was not found to be suffering from this or any infectious disease.

Acute Poliomyelitis. Two cases were sent to Weymouth Isolation Hospital on 24th. September, a boy of $2\frac{1}{2}$ from Stinsford and a boy of 8 years, from the Dorset County Hospital, whose home was at Winterborne Steepleton. They were both mild cases and were both transferred for special subsequent treatment to the Bath and Wessex Orthopaedic Hospital on the 12th. November.

Measles. There were three outbreaks of measles during the year, the first was at Portesham in February, comprising about 14 cases. The next was at Cerne Abbas & district in May and June comprising about 30 cases. The last was in the Buckland Newton area in July with about 50 cases and 15 more at Piddletrenthide and Alton Pancras, about the same time.

Scarlet Fever. One case occurred at Duddle on 19th. July and was isolated in Weymouth Isolation Hospital.

Whooping Cough. Ten cases were notified from Chickerell in February and 19 cases from Sydling St. Nicholas in October and November, mainly children under 5 years of age.

Tuberculosis, (pulmonary). One case came to reside in this district from Hampshire, the others were residents.

Scabies. One case was treated at the Weymouth Cleansing Station, where two treatments were given.

No case of Diphtheria, ophthalmia neonatorum or Puerperal pyrexia was notified during the year.

Tuberculosis. Total cases on the Register under the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations 1930 are:-

Pulmonary, Males 21, Females 15.

Non-pulmonary, Males 7, Females 5.

IMMUNISATION against Diphtheria. From July 1948, the responsibility for this has passed to the Dorset County Council, Clinics for children under school age are held at monthly intervals at the Clinic, Glyde Path Road, Dorchester. The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following figures, showing the number of children as at the 31st. December 1949, who had completed a course of primary diphtheria immunisation at any time before that date.

Estimated mid-year population 1949. Children 0 -4 years.	Children under 5 years Age at 31-12-49.					
	under 1	1	2	3	4	Total
1248	4	145	335	154	89	727 50.24%
Estimated mid-year population 1949. Children 5-15 years.	Children 5-15 years Age at 31-12-49			Total number of children under 15 years immunised.		
	5-9	10-14	Total			
2063	526	858	1384 67.00%		2111 63.43%	

VACCINATION. The County Medical Officer has kindly supplied the following Return which shows that a high percentage of children remain unprotected again Smallpox.

Return showing the number of vaccination records received

during the Year ended 31st. December 1949:-

Under 1 year	1 - 4		5 - 14		15 or over		Total	
	P.	R	P	R	P	R	Primary	Re-vac.
47	53	2	3	12	4	39	107	53

DAIRIES.

Total No. of Registered Premises = 464.)
 " " " " Cowkeepers = 430.) as at 1.10.49.
 " " " Inspections made = 79.
 No. of Statutory notices served = Nil.
 " " " " expired = Nil.
 " " " " complied with = 7 (all expired prior to 1949)
 " " " " not complied with, including those outstanding from previous years = 204.
 No. of informal notices served = Nil.
 " " " " expired = Nil.
 " " " " complied with = 1 (expired prior to 1949).
 " " " " not complied with, including those outstanding from previous years = 72.
 No. of Premises at which alterations to cowstalls have been effected as a result of informal notices = 1.
 No. of Premises at which alterations to cowstalls have been effected voluntarily = 25.
 No. of Premises in respect of which plans for, or proposals of alterations, have been received = 34.

Under the provisions of the Milk & Dairies Regulations, 1949, which came into operation on the 1st. October, 1949, a considerable change in the administration has resulted.

For many years it has been felt by persons interested in milk production that too many Departments were involved in the control of milk production etc., and that centralisation of control was long overdue. However, it is still felt by many that this new Act has not accomplished this very effectively.

MEAT INSPECTION - GOVERNMENT SLAUGHTERHOUSES - YEAR 1949.

	Cattle exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs	Goats.
No. killed	120	433	11.	240	15.	35.
No. inspected.	120	433	11	240	15	35
<u>ALL DISEASES EXCEPT</u>						
<u>T.B.</u>						
Whole Carcasses con- demned.	-	3	-	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	46	135	1	41	1	-
% if No. Inspected affected with diseases other than T.B.	38.3%	31.8%	9%	17.5%	6.6%	-
<u>T.B. ONLY.</u>	2	6	-	-	-	-
Whole Carcasses condemned.						
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	9	61	-	-	1	-
% of No. inspected affected with T.B. only.	9.1%	15.4%	-	-	6.6%	-
<u>Carcasses affected with T.B. & Other diseases</u>	14.	42.	-	-	-	-
% of No. inspected affected with T.B. & other diseases together.	11.6%	9.6%	-	-	-	-

TOTAL WEIGHT CONDEMNED 7 tons 10cwts 3 qrs
22 lbs.

MILK SAMPLING.

No. of Milk Samples satisfactory	=	29.
" " " " unsatisfactory	=	1.
Total No. of samples taken.	=	30.

MILK BOTTLES.

No. of Milk Bottles satisfactory	=	63.
" " " " unsatisfactory	=	6.
Total No. of samples taken	=	69.

MEAT INSPECTION - Government Slaughterhouses - see attached list.

In addition one visit was made to a private slaughterhouse.

Food Inspection.

No. of visits = 8.

<u>Condemned.</u>	Tinned foodstuffs - 1 qr. 15 lbs. 5 ozs.
	Other " 2 cwts. 2 lbs. 8 ozs.

FOOD POISONING. No case was notified during the year.

RATS & MICE DESTRUCTION.

No. of visits to private premises	=	510.
" " " " business "	=	20.
" " other visits	=	<u>25.</u>

<u>Total;</u>	<u>555.</u>
	<u>-----</u>

Types of infestation found:-

Major	=	4.
Minor secondary	=	5.
Minor	=	102.

WATER.

The following Parishes have polluted or insufficient water supply:- Winterborne Abbas, Winterborne Steepleton, Alton Pancras, Frampton & Toller Porcorum.

Privately Owned Piped Supplies in 18 Parishes:- Abbotsbury,
Bradford Peverell, Chesilborne(Part), Littlebrody, Longbrey,
Minterne, Osmington(Part), Portesham, Sydling(Part), Toller
Fratrum, Up Cerno(Part), Winterborne Abbas(Part), Winterborne
Stoepleton(Part), Winterborne Came, Winterborne Herringston,
Winterborne Monkton, Winterborne St.Martin(Part), Wynford Eagle.

Public Authorities & Water Co's Piped Supplies in 25 Parishes:-
Bincombe, Broadmayne, Buckland Newton, Cattistock, Cerne Abbas,
Charminster, Chickerell, Chilfrome, Dewlish, Fleet, Frome St.
Quinton, Frome Vauchurch, Godmanstone, Langton Herring, Maiden
Newton, Osmington, Owermoigne, Foxwell, Piddlehinton, Puddletown,
Piddletrenthide, Warmwell, Watercombe, West Knighton, and West
Stafford.

Langton Herring is now supplied by the Weymouth Water Company.

All the piped supplies are constant.

Proportion of houses supplied with water.

- | | | | |
|--|--------|---|------|
| (a) Percentage of the entire population of the District which is supplied with piped water direct to house | ... .. | = | 43. |
| (b) Percentage of the entire population of the District which is supplied with piped water by stand-pipes | ... .. | = | 20.6 |
| (c) Percentage of population of the Parishes having a piped supply, which is supplied direct to house | ... .. | = | 62 |
| (d) Percentage of population of the parishes having a piped supply, which is supplied by stand-pipes | ... .. | = | 28 |

No supply is liable to have plumbo-solvent action.

WATER SAMPLING.

No. of water samples satisfactory	"	179.
No. of " " unsatisfactory	"	57.
No. of " " suspicious	"	53.
Total No. of samples taken	"	289.

The taking of samples, inspection of supplies, and consultation with owners and other persons in connection with improvements of water supplies is still having the close attention of this Department, and as will be seen from the figures mentioned, a considerable amount of work has been undertaken.

It can be recorded that the quality of the water supplies in the area is continuing to show good improvement.

Samples from Public Supplies.

All the samples taken from Forston Pumping Station were quite satisfactory, before and after chloramination.

A Wallace & Tiernan chloraminating plant has been installed at the Council's Pumping Works, Maiden Newton, and the samples taken have been satisfactory. A similar one has also been installed at Brig. Woodhouse's Waterworks at Melcombe Horsey from which the Council Houses in that area obtain their supply.

Chloraminating Plants. In addition to those at the Pumping Stations at Forston and Maiden Newton belonging to this Council, there are ten other plants in this District as follows:-

Parish	Address	Owner	Date installed	Type.
Abbotsbury.	Coastguard Cottages.	Occupier	7.12.48.	"Belco".
Alton Pancras.	Barcombe Farmhouse.	Mr.J.H.Waterman.	49.	"Belco"
B.Newton		Sturminster R.D.C.		
Melcombe Horsey.	Albert Field Springs(Pumphouse).	Col. Woodhouse.	20.12.49.	Wallace & Tiernan.
Minterne Magna.	Hurdley Moor Farm-house.	Mr.Crocker.	1949	"Belco"
Fiddletrenthide.	Spring near Rockpit Dairy, Plush.	Mr.H.M.J. Barnard Hankey.	15.1.49.	"Belco"
Toller Porcorum.	Higher Kingcombe.	Mr. C.A. Crocker.	20.4.49.	"Belco".
Tolpuddle	T.U.C. Cottages.	T.U.C. Memorial Trust,	11.11.49.	"Belco".
West Knighton.	Empool. Waterworks.	Weymouth Waterworks Co.		
Winterborne Monkton.	Pumping Station.	W.R. Elworthy.		"Bell".

NISSEN HUTS. It is recorded with regret that the number of these huts, under Council control, and used as dwellings has increased.

COUNCIL HOUSES. The total number at the end of 1949 was 291 including 60 houses completed during the year.

SITES FOR COUNCIL HOUSES. The selection of sites for Council

Houses leaves much to be desired, some of them being no credit to the Council. At Melcombe Horsey, for instance, at the time of the inspection, all the officials agreed on a splendid site, but later, unknown to the Public Health Department, the houses were erected on another site, which necessitated the construction of a costly road (which would not otherwise have been required). The result is the worst sited Council Houses I have ever seen. Again at Buckland Newton an excellent site was selected, and agreed by all the officials, but later we were instructed to select another site, the result is a far inferior one has now been chosen.

DISPOSAL OF SEWAGE FROM COUNCIL HOUSES. The unsatisfactory sewage disposal works for the recently erected Council Houses at Abbotsbury and Owermoigne, the effluents from which pass directly into roadside ditches, have been installed in spite of the strong disapproval of the officers of this Public Health Department. Both these will probably become a serious nuisance in the near future.

As already recorded I do not approve of the scheme to pass the effluent from both Council Houses and the proposed Village sewage works into the river above the watercress beds at Magiston.

HOUSE INSPECTION.

No. of Houses inspected	...	...	...	= 33.
No. of subsequent visits paid to above houses..				= 90.
No. of houses rendered fit after service of informal notices				
(a) Under Public Health Act	...	...	...	= 1.
(b) Under Housing Act	...	...	...	= 1.

13.

No. of houses rendered fit after service of statutory notices			
(a) Under Public Health Act	...	...	= 2.
(b) Under Housing Act	...	...	= -

No. of houses demolished as unfit for human habitation	=	4.
No. of houses found to be overcrowded	=	1.
No. of cases of overcrowding abated during year	=	1.

NUISANCES.

Total No. of Nuisances inspected	...	...	= 42.
Total No. of re-inspections of nuisances	...	...	= 11.
Total No. of nuisances abated	...	...	= 9.
" " " " not abated...	...	...	= 33.
" " " " reported as a nuisance but not existent	---		= Nil.

DRAINS OF COUNCIL HOUSES. With regard to the drains of Council Houses constructed during the past twelve months, it appears that much of this work has not been tested at all, which is very unsatisfactory and may lead to future trouble and expense. In as much as similar private works must be examined and tested it is highly important that the work done on the Council's behalf should also be tested.

CLOSETS.

New W.Cs.	...	...	= 10.
W.C. Conversions from earth closets	...	...	= 29.
New E.Cs.	...	...	= 15.

BUILDING BYELAWS.

Total No. of visits made in connection with building byelaws	= 651.
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BUILDING LICENSING.

Total No. of visits made in connection with building licensing	= 53.
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The work of this Department during the year has been administered with some difficulty owing to lack of adequate staff. Much that ought to have been done has had to be left undone.

The Council, despite a number of applications, have not yet approved the appointment of the additional Staff so

urgently needed for the efficient administration of the work of the Public Health Department. The responsibilities of the Department cover a very wide range of local government work as will be seen from the undermentioned detailed list of inspections carried out by the technical officers of the Department. The interviewing of Callers, preparation of Reports and attendance at Meetings also takes up a considerable amount of time.

Water Supplies ...	236.	Miscellaneous Housing visits	36.
Drainage ...	672.	Visits re Disinfection.	4.
Stables & Piggeries.	7.	Miscellaneous Infectious	
Tents, Vans & Sheds.	85.	Disease Visits. ...	3.
Refuse Collection...	18.	Visits to slaughterhouses.	56.
Refuse Disposal ...	58.	Visits to other Meat	
Miscellaneous Sanitary		Premises	2.
visits. ...	82.	Grocers	1.
Building Byelaws ...	651.	Cowsheds	31.
Civil Building Control	53.	Dairies & Milkshops ...	48.
Petroleum Acts ...	22.	Ice-cream Premises ...	5.
Rights of Way ...	8.	Food Preparing Premises	9.
Night Soil ...	3.	Sampling; Milk/Bacterio-	
Rivers Surveys/Pollution	4.	logical	28.
Houses inspected under		Town & Country Planning	97.
Public Health Act.	17.	Miscellaneous Food visits.	1.
Visits paid to houses under		Factories with mechanical	
Public Health Act.	34.	power	1.
Houses inspected under		Restaurants	2.
Housing Act. ...	16.		
Visits paid to houses under			
Housing Act. ...	56.	<u>TOTAL.</u>	<u>2351.</u>
Houses inspected with			
regard to overcrowding.	4.		
Verminous Houses inspected.	1.		

No. of interviews granted & telephone calls received 4,080.

No. of letters exclusive of notices and acknowledgements
dispatched by the Department = 2122.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

	<u>No. on</u> <u>Register.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Inspections.</u>	<u>No. of</u> <u>Written Notices.</u>
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced.	43.	5.	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) to which Section 7 applies			
(a) Subject to Local Authorities Order.	80.	10.	-
(b) Others	-		
(iii) Other premises under Act (excluding out- workers premises).	20.	9.	-
	143.	24.	-

Cases in which defects were found = Nil.

OUTWORKERS.

Net Makers	124.
Glove	
Manufacturers...	110.
Carpet maker....	1.
Toilet brush	
manufacturer....	1.
Handknitting....	1.
Total	237.

C.D. DAY, M.A., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health
7. Weymouth Avenue,
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